

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of :
Peter STEIGER : Confirmation No. 6867
U.S. Patent Application No. 10/581,065 : Group Art Unit: 1792
Filed: May 30, 2006 : Examiner: Alexander Marion Weddle
For: SPRAY COATING DEVICE

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria VA 22313-1450

Sir:

By Official Action mailed February 3, 2009, restriction to one of the following inventions is required:

Group I, claim(s) 1-13, drawn to an apparatus for spraycoating circular objects.

Group II, claim(s) 14-21, drawn to a method for spraycoating circular objects.

In response, Applicants hereby elect **Group I** (apparatus).

Restriction to one of the following species of the elected invention is further required:

Species A: Claim 2 (vertical axis of rotation)

Species B: Claims 3 and 8 (horizontal axis of rotation)

In response, Applicants hereby elect Species B (horizontal axis of rotation), upon which claims 1, 3-13 are readable. Claims 1, 4-6 and 9-13 are generic.

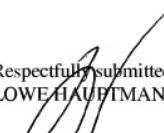
The elections are made *with traverse* because the search and examination of the entire application could be made without *serious* burden on the Examiner. Inventions I and II are related as apparatus and process of using. In the relevant art, references often describe both the apparatus and its use, as will be apparent to the Examiner upon conducting a search for prior art. Therefore, both Inventions I and II can be covered in a single search. In addition, species A and B are also closely related and can be apparently covered in the same search without *any* burden, much less serious burden, on the Examiner.

In view of the above, withdrawal of the Restriction Requirement and consideration of all claims pending in the instant application are believed appropriate and therefore courteously solicited.

Early examination on the merits is respectfully requested.

To the extent necessary, a petition for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 is hereby made. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 07-1337 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,
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